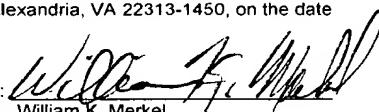




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Dated: August 12, 2004

Signature:



William K. Merkel

Docket No.: 28341/00233.NCP
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kletzien et al.

Application No.: 09/851,873

Art Unit: 1652

Filed: May 8, 2001

Examiner: R. Hutson

For: Human Caspase-12 Materials and Methods

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.312

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

There are no amendments to the claims, as reflected in the complete listing of claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.